

Chionaspis, which, on examination, proved to be *Chionaspis minor*, Mask. From the appearance of the branch, it occurred to me that the species might be doing harm, and, on writing to Prof. Quaintance, I was informed that it was severely attacking the "China-trees" at Braidentown, Florida, having apparently killed many trees on the main street of the town. This is the first time this species has been reported from the United States, so far as I can learn, and as it has quite a large number of food plants, its introduction is an important matter.

Chionaspis minor was originally described from New Zealand, and is quite generally distributed in the West Indies. Mr. Alexander Craw has also sent me specimens which arrived at San Francisco, Cal., on an unidentified plant from Panama. The species is known to attack Palm, *Vitis vinifera*, *Rhipogonum scandens*, *Persoonia*, *Hibiscus*, *Capsicum*, *Erythrina*, and *Melia azedarach* (China-tree).

A NEW GRASSHOPPER FROM ONTARIO.

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Melanoplus abortivus, new species.—Size rather small, especially the male. Female nearly as large as *M. femur-rubrum*, but proportionately much stouter.

Frontal costa nearly reaching the clypeus, subequal, though sometimes a little contracted toward the vertex, plane except a slight depression at the ocellus, or in the male generally slightly sulcate from just above the ocellus, rather thinly punctate. Vertex with the margins slightly elevated, gently expanding in front of the eyes for a distance about equal to or somewhat less than that between the eyes in the female, rather greater in the male. Interspace between the eyes rather broader than the first antennal joint in the male, nearly twice as broad in the female. Eyes rather prominent, especially in the male, of moderate size. Top of head moderately prominent, evenly convex. Antennæ about as long as the head and pronotum. Anterior margin of pronotum truncate or very slightly emarginate, posterior margin obtusely rounded. Sides of pronotum in the male sub-parallel, only slightly divergent posteriorly on the metazona; in the female distinctly divergent throughout their entire length, so that the width of the pronotum is about one-third greater at the posterior than at the anterior margin. Dorsum of pronotum broadly convex and more or less distinctly and finely punctate on the metazona. Median carina entirely obliterated or very indistinct on the prozona, distinct and

somewhat elevated on the metazona. Lateral carinae distinct except towards the posterior margin of the metazona. Posterior margin of the lateral lobes very oblique, forming an angle of about sixty degrees with the dorsum, more or less distinctly angulate with the sinuous lower margin; metazona densely punctate, prozona glabrous and shining. Prosternal spine short, bluntly conical, slightly bent backward, transverse in the female. Tegmina not longer than the pronotum, generally distinctly shorter, ovate in outline, the greatest breadth being about two-thirds the length; sometimes barely meeting on the dorsum, but more often separated by a space of variable width, which is occasionally equal to nearly half the greatest width of the tegmen. Wings reduced to mere scales which do not quite reach the tympanum. Cerci of the male not quite reaching to the tip of the supra-anal plate, simple, about two-thirds as broad at the base as long, tapering to a blunt rounded point, which is not or scarcely bent inwards, outer margin nearly straight, inner slightly sinuate; under surface slightly convex near the base. Supra-anal plate with a narrow median furrow and a broader one of about equal depth on each side; triangular in outline, with rounded sides; width at base about two-thirds the length. Furcula minute, not more than about one-sixth length of the supra-anal plate, about as broad as long, slightly approximate and somewhat constricted in the middle. Sub-genital plate narrow, elongate, entire, terminating in a blunt point. Hind femora stout, reaching beyond the tip of the abdomen in the male, not quite to the end as a rule in the female. Colour of dried specimens: Above, dull grayish-brown, somewhat paler on the abdomen in the female, more or less distinctly speckled with darker gray. A shining black band runs from the posterior border of the eye across the upper half of the lateral lobe of the pronotum and downward to the middle coxa, and also backward along the side of the abdomen, fading away near the last segment. It encloses an oblique whitish spot running from the base of the tegmen to the hind coxa. Below this black band the whole of the head and thorax is yellowish-white in well-preserved specimens, deeper yellow on the metasternum. There is also in the female generally a short whitish line along the lateral carina of the pronotum, which is sometimes continued downward and forward in an interrupted line across the black band. Venter pale yellow, darker in the female. Hind femora yellowish-brown, under surface reddish-yellow, crossed on both outer and inner surfaces by two oblique, more or less distinct, dusky bands. Hind tibiae coral-red. Fore and

middle legs yellowish, fleeced with reddish-brown. Antennæ dusky paler at base.

Length of antenna: ♂ 5.5 to 7 mm., ♀ 6.8 to 7.5 mm.

“ “ head and pronotum: ♂ 6 to 7 mm., ♀ 6.8 to 8 mm.

“ “ hind femora: ♂ 9 to 9.5 mm., ♀ 10 to 12 mm.

“ “ tegmen: ♂ 3 to 3.5 mm., ♀ 3.5 to 5.5 mm.

“ “ body: ♂ 14.5 to 16.7, ♀ 20 to 24 mm.

This species is very closely allied to *M. mancus*, Smith, from which it can be distinguished as follows: In *mancus* the cerci of the male are much longer than in *abortivus*, reaching quite to the end of the supra-anal plate, sometimes beyond it, while in *abortivus* they are always distinctly shorter. In *mancus* they are fully twice as long as broad, generally more than this, the apex considerably expanded and distinctly incurved; the furcula is much longer than in *abortivus*, being a fourth as long as the supra-anal plate, while in the latter they are never more than one-sixth as long. In *abortivus* they are about as broad as long, slightly convergent and constricted in the middle, while in *mancus* they are distinctly longer than broad and somewhat divergent. The females are extremely difficult to separate from those of *mancus*, there being scarcely one permanent distinguishing character.

The lateral carinæ of the pronotum are more prominent in *abortivus*, there being a distinct angle between the dorsum and lateral lobes, while in *mancus* this angle is rounded off. In *abortivus* the posterior margin of the pronotum is more or less angulated with the lower margin, in *mancus* there is generally no semblance of an angle here.

Described from fifty-five specimens, of which twenty-five are males and thirty females. Most of these were taken at De Grassi Point, Lake Simcoe, Ontario, and in neighboring localities. The only other locality where I have seen it is Aurora, Ontario, about 22 miles further south. It is found in openings in rich shady woods and on their borders, especially where the timber is of a coniferous growth. I have found it most common in paths in swampy woods composed of spruce, balsam fir, tamarack, paper birch, etc. Seldom more than one or two are seen at once, though by diligent search specimens can be secured any day during the proper season, which lasts from the first week in July, or a little later, to the beginning of October. The earliest date upon which I have taken a specimen is July 2, 1896.

Figures of this species will appear later, in connection with my “Notes on Some Ontario Acridiidae.”